

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
Southern District of Ohio

FILED  
RICHARD W. NAGEL  
CLERK OF COURT

8/20/2024

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DIST. OHIO  
WEST. DIV. DAYTON

In the Matter of the Search of  
(Briefly describe the property to be searched  
or identify the person by name and address)

Priority Mail Package Tracking Number

postmarked August 15, 2024

Case No. 3:24-mj-537

APPLICATION FOR A WARRANT BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

Priority Mail Package, [REDACTED], addressed to "[REDACTED]" with a return of "[REDACTED]" located in the Southern District of Ohio, there is now concealed (identify the person or describe the property to be seized):

Controlled Substances, materials and documents reflecting the distribution of controlled substances through the U.S. Mails, including money and/or monetary instruments paid for controlled substances.

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (check one or more):

- ☒ evidence of a crime;  
☒ contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;  
☒ property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;  
☐ a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of:

Code Section	Offense Description
21 U.S.C. 841(a)(1)	Distribution and possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
21 U.S.C. 846	Conspiracy to distribute/possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance
21 U.S.C. 843(b)	Use of a communication facility to commit a felony

The application is based on these facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

- ☒ Continued on the attached sheet.  
☐ Delayed notice of \_\_\_\_\_ days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days: \_\_\_\_\_) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

Joseph L. Rossiter  
Applicant's signature

Joseph L. Rossiter, U.S. Postal Inspector  
Printed name and title

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (specify reliable electronic means).

Date: August 20, 2024

City and state: Dayton, Ohio

Caroline H. Gentry  
United States Magistrate Judge



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
WESTERN DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF  
PRIORITY MAIL PACKAGE TRACKING  
NUMBER [REDACTED]

Case No. 3:24-mj-537

Filed Under Seal

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF  
AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

I, **Joseph L. Rossiter**, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I am a United States Postal Inspector and have been since May 2016. I am presently assigned to the Cincinnati Field Office of the United States Postal Inspection Service, Pittsburgh Division, with investigative responsibility for southeast Indiana and southern Ohio. Part of my responsibility involves investigating the illicit use of the United States Mails in the transportation of narcotics, other dangerous controlled substances, and financial proceeds from, or instrumentalities used in, the sale of such narcotics and controlled substances (hereinafter, "Drugs and/or Proceeds").

2. Based on my training and experience as a United States Postal Inspector, I have become aware that drug traffickers frequently use United States Priority Mail Express (overnight) or Priority Mail (2-3-day) to transport Drugs and/or Proceeds. Additionally, as a result of prior investigations, law enforcement training, and successful controlled-substance prosecutions involving the use of the United States Mails, I have learned of certain common characteristics and/or circumstances that indicate that a package may contain Drugs and/or Proceeds. These circumstances and/or characteristics include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: the mailer uses different post offices on the same day to send packages, the package is mailed from a known drug source location, the addressee is not known to receive mail at the listed delivery address, the return address is false or non-existent, the package is heavily taped, the

labeling information contains misspellings, the label contains an illegible waiver signature, unusual odors emanate from the package, and the listed address is located in an area of known or suspected drug activity.

3. On August 19, 2024, Postal Inspectors intercepted a package (hereinafter “the Package”) at the Cincinnati Network Distribution Center (NDC) in Cincinnati, OH. The Package is a Priority Mail Ready Post box, bearing tracking number [REDACTED], postmarked on August 15, 2024, from Ceres, CA with the following address information:

**Sender:**

[REDACTED]

**Addressee:**

[REDACTED]

4. Through law enforcement training and experience, I know Ceres, CA, where the Package was postmarked from, in Northern California is a known drug source location.

5. I performed a check in the CLEAR database for the addressee’s information on the Package of “[REDACTED]”. CLEAR is a law enforcement database that is used as a tool by investigators to link subjects to a particular address. According to CLEAR, there is no “[REDACTED]” associated with [REDACTED]

6. I also performed a check in CLEAR for the sender’s information listed on the Package of “[REDACTED]”. According to CLEAR, there is no “[REDACTED]” associated with [REDACTED].

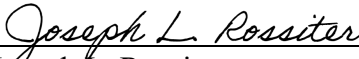
7. On August 20, 2024, at my request, Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Detective Anthony Hutson conducted a narcotics-detection canine “free air” check of the outside of the Package. I was present during said check. The Package was placed in a controlled area, amongst similar and like packages, and presented to narcotics-detection canine “Hank.” As set

forth in Detective Hutson's affidavit, attached, "Hank" alerted positively for the presence or odor of a narcotic or other controlled substance. "Hank" is a properly trained and certified narcotics-detection canine.

8. Based on my training and experience as a United States Postal Inspector, the Package's address information, including (i) no known association between the sender and return address, (ii) no known association between the addressee and recipient address, and the positive alert of the narcotics-detection canine are all indicative of and consistent with Drugs and/or Proceeds being present in the Package. Therefore, I respectfully request a search warrant be issued authorizing the opening of the Package.

Further, your affiant sayeth naught.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph L. Rossiter  
Postal Inspector  
United States Postal Inspection Service

By telephone  
Subscribed and sworn to and before me this 20th day of August, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Caroline H. Gentry  
United States Magistrate Judge





UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE

PITTSBURGH DIVISION

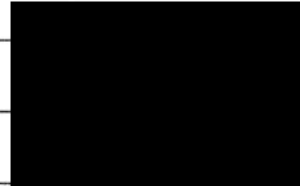
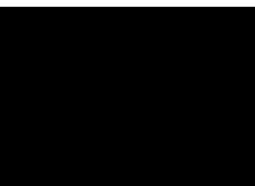
OFFICER AFFIDAVIT

I, Deputy Anthony Hutson, am and have been employed by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office since 1998. Among other duties, I am currently the assigned handler of narcotics detection canine "Hank" which is trained and certified in the detection of the presence or odor of narcotics described as follows:

Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Heroin, and their derivatives

On 08/20/24, at the request of Postal Inspector ROSSITER, I responded to the DAYTON P&DC, where "Hank" did alert to and indicate upon: [describe item]

USPS Priority Mail Package tracking number [REDACTED]



Which, based upon my training and experience and that of "Hank", indicates there is contained within or upon the above described item, the presence or odor of a narcotic or other controlled substance.

[Signature] 101 8-20-24  
(Signature, Badge #, and Date)

[Signature] 8/20/24  
(Witness/Date)